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Timely delivery of spare parts to MTS and kolkhozes is extremely important for the repair of agricultural machines and tractors. Along with the specialized plants, all other industrial enterprises must contribute to the solution of this problem. The Ministries of Cotton Growing and Agriculture of Uzbek SSR must intensify their supervision over the filling of their orders.

Inadequate assistance is given to the cotton industry by the Ministry of Local Industry Uzbek SSR and the industrial and invalids' cooperatives. Their plants have not developed sufficiently the repair of kolkhoz tools and equipment.

DESIGN BUREAU TRIES TO MECHANIZE TEA PLANTATIONS -- Tbilisi Zarya Vostoka,
3 Aug 50

Last year, a special design bureau was established in the Ministry of Agricultural-Machine Building USSR devoted to mechanizing the work of plantations growing tea and other subtropical culture in the Georgian SSR. Since then, the bureau's work has been crowned by the design of the ChP-1.5 tea-pruning machine, which has recently passed successful tests and been recommended for series production. The machine is designed to be coupled to the U-2 tractor.

To adapt the tractor to the ChP-1.5, it has been necessary, in addition to enlarging the tractor's wheel, to increase its draft power and to coordinate its speed with that of the machine. This has been done by means of a special attachment, the so-called demultiplicator, which can be used for other tea-tending operations as well.

At the suggestion of N. Kostav, one of the bureau's engineers, three other self-propelled tea-pruning machines have been designed. One, a motorcycle type, is intended for steep inclines up to 30 degrees. All of these machines are currently being tested.

The bureau has also achieved notable success in the design of general purpose self-propelled machines for mountainous terrain. These machines, which are suspension type, can be used simultaneously for tea-pruning, spraying, cultivating, and fertilizing. Such machines, which are able to work on a 25-degree incline, have not yet been designed outside of the USSR.

A serious problem which is now engaging the efforts of the bureau is to design a tea-harvesting machine. Six variants have already been worked out and are now undergoing laboratory tests.

In addition to the above, the bureau is working on machines and implements for the mechanization of labor on plantations which raise citrus and other subtropical and industrial crops. It has already designed a vineyard cultivating plow, which has shown good performance in laboratory tests and is now undergoing official tests.

A number of complex machines are still in the process of designing. They include a completely new machine for the fumigation of tea plants by means of cyanide gas and a lighter type of cableway for the transport of tea from plantations to the tea factories. This will free a considerable number of trucks and will improve the quality of the tea. At the request of the government of the Georgian SSR, a combined corn and soybean cluster seeder, designed by S. Chochiya, is now in the process of construction. This seeder will replace a large number of workers, save much seed, and increase the yield of these crops.

The volume and complexity of the problems attending the design of new machines makes increasingly apparent the need to transfer to the bureau one of the Tbilisi plants for experimentation and for series production of the machines designed.

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